

Cyrus K. R.

Dear Sir,

I regret to say

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Yours faithfully

James

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Report for 1914

BY

The Medical Officer of Health

AND

The Sanitary Inspector

OF THE

Lymington

Rural District Council.

LYMINGTON,

MARCH, 1915.

Lymington Rural District Council
Medical Officer of Health.

F. H. MATURIN, B.A., M.E., B.C. CANTAB,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., ENGLAND.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to lay before you the Annual Report for the year 1914 of the Lymington Rural District which is 36,613 acres in extent, and has a population of 12,450 exclusive of some 3,000 military.

The physical features of the district are a gravel soil, covered in the uncultivated parts by heather, moderately wooded, with an ample water supply. It is bounded on the North by the New Forest, and on the South by the Town of Lymington, and by the Solent. The inhabitants are either those engaged in agricultural pursuits, or those of independent means and their immediate employés. There are no factories or works in the district.

BIRTHS.

The Births in the year numbered 225, an increase of 12 on the previous year. 113 were boys, and 112 girls. The eastern half of the district (Boldre, Sway, Brockenhurst and East Boldre) which represents mainly the agricultural half, provided 101, while the western half (New Milton, Milford, and Hordle) provided 124. This gives a birth rate of 18.07 per thousand as against 16.83 in 1913, and 19.9 in 1912. Thus the birth rate has slightly improved.

DEATHS.

124 people actually died in the district, and 18 residents died outside the district, making a total of 142 as against 123 in 1913. This gives a death rate of 11.4 as against 9.72 in 1913, and 11.6 in the year 1912.

Of these, 66 were upwards of 65 years of age, while 44 were between the ages of 1 and 45.

INFANT MORTALITY.

There were 14 deaths of infants under 1 year; 2 of these were due to premature birth; of the others 2 died of bronchitis and 2 of pneumonia. This reduces the figures of infant deaths from 162.6 per thousand last year to 62.2 per thousand, as against 60.24 in 1912 and 48.8 in 1911.

The chief causes of death in adults were—

a. Heart disease	...	23
b. Cancer	...	18
c. Pneumonia	...	11
d. Phthisis	...	10

It is now compulsory to notify all births to the County Medical Officer at Winchester.

INFECTIOUS CASES.

There were 20 cases notified other than Tuberculosis; 4 of these were of Erysipelas, 6 of Diphtheria, 10 of Scarlet Fever.

Four of the Scarlet Fever cases were in the parish of New Milton, and two in Milford Parish.

Antitoxin is provided by the Council for all cases of Diphtheria, whether rich or poor, and all medical men can have swabs examined at the County Laboratory at Winchester.

17 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified.

The Isolation Hospital erected by the R.D.C. is kept ready to accommodate any cases of infectious diseases that may occur where no proper isolation can be maintained. The district, however, during the past year, has been normal as regards notifications of infectious cases, and no necessity has arisen for removal to the Hospital.

As regards the notification of tuberculosis cases, these have required attention and supervision additional to that given in previous years, and every endeavour is therefore made to cope properly with the same by inspection, disinfection, and general supervision.

WATER SUPPLY.

Throughout the district, where the public supply can be obtained from the Company's service, the difficulty of inducing the occupiers to take this water is much less

than formerly, since prejudice has given way to advantage and convenience. Consequently in the districts where the South Hants and West Hants mains are laid, due advantage is taken of them, and former sources of doubtful quality have been abandoned. I am therefore pleased to report that an improvement has taken place, and in the most thickly crowded areas which used to be supplied by surface water and shallow wells, advantage is taken of opportunities.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

BROCKENHURST. The scheme of the Council is now being proceeded with, owing, in great measure, to the influx of the military and the consequent turning into Hospitals of two large hotels. The War Office had to arrange for the temporary drainage of these by laying an iron pipe sewer from the Forest Park Hotel across the Forest by Brockenhurst Bridge, taking the drainage of the Balmer Lawn Hotel and continuing its course to an outfall near the site of the sewage beds now being constructed. The plan is to complete these beds as soon as possible so as to cope with the treatment of the sewage, thus preventing any risk of danger to health which delay might cause to arise. I hope the Council will expedite to the more congested areas, the facilities provided by the scheme, and so remove a source of danger that cannot otherwise be dealt with, considering the present great increase of population in the parish through the number of wounded and invalid soldiers being sent there. Concerning these matters, visits were made in co-operation with the Military authorities, and the course deemed best under the circumstances, with regard to the health and welfare of the parish, was adopted.

At Milton and Milford-on-Sea also huts have been erected, and premises acquired for Military purposes, thus necessitating extensive sanitary arrangements of which the existing sewer and outfall works had to bear the strain. The District Council's official duty being to see all these matters kept in working order, due supervision is exercised.

THE COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES ACT.

As mentioned in my last yearly report the cowsheds and dairies have been supervised, so the provisions of the act have been maintained.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES, BAKERIES, AND SCHOOLS.

These have had periodical inspection and there is little to complain of.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT.

Up to the outbreak of the war in August, inspections and reports were made to the Council, and many improvements made in accordance with the notice served, but since then little action has been taken in the matter owing to other matters in connection with the drainage requirements and supervision at Brockenhurst. Milton, & Milford-on-Sea.

Hereto I append the statistical tables of deaths, and infectious diseases, and remain

Yours faithfully,

H. STATHAM,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

p.p. F. H. MATURIN.

1914.

LYMINGTON RURAL DISTRICT.

Inspector of Nuisances Annual Report for 1914.

Duties under the Various Sanitary Acts.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

As your Inspector in connection with the performance of the various duties I beg to submit for your perusal a summary of the work done.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS.

These have been made on the same lines as in previous years and in accordance with the duties as required by the various Acts, together with the instructions of the Medical Officer of Health or the Council.

Complaints, either by letter or those personally made, are inquired into with as little delay as possible, and

dealt with on their merits, requiring with few exceptions any statutory notice or necessity to bring them before the Council, otherwise than in the Inspector's continuous record book laid before you at your ordinary meetings.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In all cases the instructions of the Medical Officer of Health have been attended to as regards the cleansing, disinfecting and isolation of cases which have been notified, and the occupants of the premises instructed as to isolation, use of disinfectants, &c., to check any possible spread of disease, by the usual precautionary methods.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES, SCHOOLS, BAKEHOUSES, WORKSHOPS, Etc.

These have been systematically inspected and kept under supervision to enforce any breach of the Sanitary laws, where detected these have been adequately dealt with.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING.

This was proceeded with up to the outbreak of war at which date 54 Cottages had been inspected in the district and every particular required by the Act entered on the cards and books provided. The individual reports were laid before the Council and dealt with as required. Notices were served in accordance with the various recommendations, whereby many defects and improvements have been effected as a result of repeated inspections, reports, service of notices, etc.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The regulations as to cleansing and whitewashing are maintained by visits and inspections from time to time throughout the district. The growing importance and necessity of cleanliness and sanitary regulations amongst Dairymen and Cowkeepers is more fully realised than formerly when no such visits or inspections were made. The regulations in book form, as printed in 1909, are distributed amongst Dairymen, &c., throughout the district. The consumption of milk and number of cows kept is constantly increasing.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

These matters are receiving special and continuous attention at Brockenhurst, Milton and Milford-on-Sea. Owing to the War Authorities having commandeered buildings, dwelling houses and land for the purpose of Hospital Camps, &c., for wounded Indian Soldiers with their usual staff of officers and attendants, this created a great influx of population for which the sanitary needs and requirements became an essential part. In consequence much time and information had to be given as to connections with sewers, disposal of refuse and the constant supervision of sewers inore especially at Milford-on-Sea and Milton to prevent any block or stoppage on the line of sewers with the outfall. Further special sanitary military requirements and the extra strain put on the sewerage system for their immediate requirements had to be taken in hand at once.

NEW BUILDINGS.

Plans submitted and approved during the year were as follows:—Boldre 5, Brockenhurst 9, Hordle 7, Milford-on-Sea 8, Milton 10, Pennington 7, Sway 7—a total of 53. Of this number 28 were of the cottage or artisan class, the remainder were of the residential type, including additions and alterations.

Consequent upon the outbreak of war a marked decrease in building operations had taken place owing to the high price of labour and material.

MEETINGS OF COUNCIL.

I have attended all the Council and Committee meetings held during the year relative to Housing and Town Planning, Bye-laws and Drainage matters.

The foregoing summary of my efforts will I trust show that I have maintained your growing and important district to the best of my ability with up to date Sanitary efficiency and progression.

Having had the honour for the past 23 years of being

Your obedient Servant,

O. S. HAYTER,

May 20th, 1915.

